

REMARKS

At the outset, it is noted that rejected claims 1-32 have been canceled and new claims 33-48 have been added. All grounds for rejection are believed to be moot in view of cancellation of all rejected claims.

New independent method claim 33 recites the steps of: acquiring data representing a grayscale image; adding data representing a textual annotation to said acquired grayscale image data; and displaying an annotated grayscale image comprising said grayscale image with said textual annotation overlaid thereon. New independent method claim 45 recites the steps of: acquiring data representing an HSV color image; adding data representing a textual annotation to said acquired HSV color image data; and displaying an annotated HSV color image comprising said HSV color image with said textual annotation overlaid thereon.


The foregoing steps are neither disclosed nor suggested by the Ikeshoji patent, which "relates to an image processing method suitable for correction of an image when a natural image such as a photograph or a picture or a document of characters and/or figures drawn on a paper is read by an electronic means such as a scanner and recorded on a recording medium or displayed on a display." [Ikeshoji, col. 1, ll. 8-13.] Ikeshoji is unconcerned with the problem of enhancing images that have annotations burnt thereon. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 33-48 are neither anticipated by nor

obvious in view of Ikeshoji.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 33-48 are hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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